

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An attachment to a goalie ice skate comprising:

a protective shell having first and second opposed side walls and a sole joined by toe and heel portions, the shell defining an interior cavity adapted for receiving a goalie ice skate boot;

a holder unitarily formed as part of the sole of the shell, the holder having an open ended groove extending lengthwise thereover;

at least two transversely extending bores formed in the holder;

a blade received in the open ended groove after the holder has been unitarily formed with respect to the shell, the blade having a blade edge and at least two legs projecting from the blade edge, apertures formed in the legs for alignment with a corresponding number of bores formed in the holder when the blade is mounted in the open ended groove in the holder; and

fasteners engagable through the apertures in the legs of the blade and the bores in the holder to removably affix the blade to the holder.

2. (Previously Presented) The attachment to a goalie ice skate according to claim 1 wherein the open ended groove is integrally formed with respect to the toe and heel portions and releasibly engages the blade.

3. (Previously Presented) The attachment to a goalie ice skate according to claim 1 wherein the corresponding number of bores are integrally formed with respect to the toe and heel portions.

4. (Previously Presented) The attachment to a goalie ice skate according to claim 1 further comprising:

at least one lateral support defined by a mounting edge of the blade;

and

at least one slot for receiving the at least one lateral support defined by the holder.

5. (Previously Presented) The attachment to a goalie ice skate according to claim 4 wherein the at least one slot is integrally formed with respect to the toe and heel portions.

CI 6. (Previously Presented) The attachment to a goalie ice skate according to claim 1 wherein the first opposed side wall defines a low profile in at least a central portion of the skate and the corresponding number of bores are integrally formed with respect to the low profile of the first opposed side wall.

7. (Previously Presented) The attachment to a goalie ice skate according to claim 1 wherein the second opposed side wall defines an ankle portion rising above an upper extent of the heel portion and the corresponding number of bores are integrally formed with respect to the ankle portion of the second opposed side wall.

8. (Previously Presented) The attachment to a goalie ice skate according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the apertures formed in the legs is offset from a substantially longitudinal axis of the corresponding leg.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for making an attachment to a goalie skate comprising the steps of:

forming a sole having a first end and a second end;

integrally forming a protective shell with respect to the sole for receiving a goalie ice skate boot including a toe portion adjacent a first end of the sole and a heel portion adjacent the second end, ~~and extending in a first direction from the sole;~~ and

integrally forming a blade holder with respect to the sole and the protective shell including an open ended groove for receiving a blade subsequent to being formed with sole and the protective shell, the blade holder also including at least one bore extending transverse to the open ended groove and adjacent one of the toe portion and the heel portion to receive a fastener for releasibly associating a blade with respect to the integrally formed sole, protective shell and blade holder[.]; and positioning the blade in the open ended groove after the protective shell has been unitarily formed.

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10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9 wherein the step of integrally forming the protective shell further comprises the steps of:

forming a first opposed side wall extending between the toe portion and the heel portion; and

defining a low profile in at least a central portion of the first opposed side wall.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9 wherein the step of integrally forming the protective shell further comprises the steps of:

forming a second opposed side wall extending between the toe portion and the heel portion; and

defining an ankle portion rising above an upper extent of the heel portion.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9 wherein the step of integrally forming the blade holder further comprises the steps of:

forming at least one slot in extending transverse to the open ended groove ~~extending along a longitudinal axis of the sole to receive a lateral support~~

~~defined by a blade received in the open ended groove. and adjacent one of the toe portion and the heel portion to receive a fastener for releasibly associating the blade with respect to the unitarily formed sole, protective shell and blade holder.~~

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12 wherein the step of forming at least one slot further comprises the steps of:
forming a first slot in the open ended groove adjacent the toe portion of the protective shell extending toward the heel portion.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13 wherein the step of forming at least one slot further comprises the steps of:
forming a second slot in the open ended groove adjacent the heel portion of the protective shell extending toward the toe portion.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9 further comprising the step of:
positioning a blade with respect to the open ended groove after the forming step.

16. (Currently Amended) An attachment to a goalie ice skate ~~manufactured according to the method of claim 9~~ comprising:
a sole having a first end and a second end;
a protective shell integrally formed with respect to the sole for receiving a goalie ice skate boot including a toe portion adjacent a first end of the sole and a heel portion adjacent a second end of the sole, the protective shell extending in a first direction from the sole; and
a blade holder integrally formed with respect to the sole and the protective shell including an open ended groove for receiving a blade subsequent to being formed with sole and the protective shell, the blade holder also including at

least one bore extending transverse to the open ended groove and adjacent one of the toe portion and the heel portion to receive a fastener for releasibly associating a blade with respect to the integrally formed sole, protective shell and blade holder.

17. (Previously Presented) The attachment to a goalie ice skate according to claim 16 wherein the at least one bore further comprises:

a first bore adjacent the toe portion, the sole disposed between and unitarily formed with the first bore and the toe portion; and

a second portion adjacent the heel portion, the sole disposed between and unitarily formed with the second bore and the heel portion.

18. (Previously Presented) The attachment to a goalie ice skate according to claim 16 further comprising:

a first opposed side wall extending between the toe portion and the heel portion and defining a low profile in at least a central portion of the first opposed side wall; and

a second opposed side wall extending between the toe portion and the heel portion and defining an ankle portion rising above an upper extent of the heel portion.

19. (Previously Presented) The attachment to a goalie ice skate according to claim 16 further comprising:

at least one slot defined in the open ended groove and extending along a longitudinal axis of the sole to receive a lateral support defined by a blade received in the open ended groove.

20. (Previously Presented) The attachment to a goalie ice skate according to claim 16 further comprising:

a blade receivable with respect to the open ended groove including a blade portion and first and second legs extending substantially transverse to the blade portion, the first leg defining a first projection extending substantially parallel to the blade portion and toward the second leg, the second leg defining a second projection extending substantially parallel to the blade portion and toward the first leg.

21. (New) The method according to claim 9 wherein the forming step further comprises the step of:

molding the protective shell and the holder in a plastic molding process.

22. (New) A method for making an attachment to a goalie ice skate comprising:

integrally forming a protective shell having first and second opposed side walls and a sole joined by toe and heel portions, the shell defining an interior cavity adapted for receiving a goalie ice skate boot;

unitarily forming a holder as part of the sole of the shell, the holder having an open ended groove extending lengthwise thereover;

forming at least two transversely extending bores in the holder;

positioning a blade received in the open ended groove after the holder has been unitarily formed with respect to the shell, the blade having a blade edge and at least two legs projecting from the blade edge, apertures formed in the legs for alignment with a corresponding number of bores formed in the holder when the blade is mounted in the open ended groove in the holder; and

engaging fasteners through the apertures in the legs of the blade and the bores in the holder to removably affix the blade to the holder.
